



# NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER PHIL ANGELIDES

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## STATE TREASURER PHIL ANGELIDES' STATEMENT ON FATHER'S DAY 2006

As the father of three daughters, some of my proudest moments came in just the last few weeks, when my wife Julie and I saw our youngest daughter graduate from high school and our middle daughter graduate from college. And it wasn't too long ago that our oldest daughter returned from Senegal, West Africa, where she served in the Peace Corps for over two years after obtaining her college degree.

As a parent, and as California's State Treasurer, I believe firmly that our generation's greatest gift to the next will be the investment we make in our children.

My own family is an example of the success that comes when one generation sacrifices for the next. My grandmother came to this country as a Greek immigrant, and worked day and night as a seamstress so that my dad could attend the University of California, Berkeley. He earned a Distinguished Flying Cross and the United States Air Medal in World War II – giving selflessly like so many of his generation to ensure that my generation could enjoy the freedoms that we hold so dear. Like their parents before them, he and my mother worked hard all their lives to provide the best opportunities for their kids. I'm grateful to them for the opportunities they gave me, and I'm fortunate to be able to pass the precious gift of education on to my daughters.

But my dad also taught me to never take for granted the opportunities I have been given. He told me never to forget that those people who work 15 hours a day, each and every day, just to survive, people who never get a break from anyone.

I know there are too many families in this state who haven't been as fortunate as I have been. Families with parents who work two and three jobs just to put food on the table, and don't have extra money to sock away for college savings. Parents who themselves didn't have the opportunity to attend college, and don't know how to help their kids prepare academically or fill out their university applications. That is why I have led the fight to roll back college tuition hikes that hurt our students, and to protect funding for college preparation programs that help underserved students achieve their college dreams.

On this Father's Day, I send my best wishes to fathers across California and all those working to make our state stronger for the next generation.

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